

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2001

The Tippecanoe County Council held a special meeting at 1:00 P.M. and its regular meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2001 at 2:00 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President David S. Byers, Vice President Connie Basham, Jeffrey Kessler, Margaret K. Bell, Jeffrey A. Kemper, and Kathy Vernon, and Ronald L. Fruitt; Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr.

President Byers called the special meeting to order. The purpose today's special meeting with City of Lafayette Dave Heath was to receive an update on current projects as well as anticipated projects.

Twyckingham Bridge

- ♦ Mayor Heath thinks work on the bridge will begin during the next construction season and will take approximately one (1) year to complete.
- ♦ The Brady Lane sewer project between S 18th St. and Concord Rd. will follow when the Bridge is complete. Brady will be widened some.
- ♦ S 9th St. and S 18th St. will be widened to CR 350 S.
- ♦ The N 9th St. project is now mostly sewer work. The four lane road will be constructed next year.
- ♦ Railroad track removal and the installation of sewers won't be completed this year.
- ♦ The extension of Erie St. to Greenbush St. will be a new road with sewer lines.
- ♦ The Elmwood/Greenbush Fire Station will be closed when the new station at SR 25 and US 52 is completed.
- ♦ Railroad signals removed at city crossings will not be reused because new technology has made them obsolete.

TERF Board

- ♦ Closure of the Landfill is progressing well but it will need to be monitored for least the next 20 years. Mayor Heath does not recommend using any of the closure funds until the monitoring is complete. He said future expenses may be more than anticipated. He pointed out that no mechanism is currently in place to return any funds to the entities.

Parking

- ♦ Mayor Heath said they don't charge for evening hours at the City Parking Garage because they don't want to man it after hours. They are afraid people might get stuck in the garage if it isn't manned. (Councilmember Kessler commented he thinks charging for evening parking will be a detriment to downtown business.)
- ♦ Combining services makes a lot of sense. The City and County Police Departments use the County's Maintenance Center.

Annexation

- ♦ The City of Lafayette has no major annexation plans. The SIA Annexation will take place in 2004 or 2005. The fire station located close to SIA is under construction.
- ♦ The City, in conjunction with Greater Lafayette Progress, is conducting a study to determine our readiness to bring more high tech businesses to Lafayette.

Health Care Cost

- ♦ The City solicited RFPs and chose Arnett HMO. With a budget of \$2.6 million for health plans in 2002, employees will be offered a choice of two plans. Employee-only coverage will cost \$25.00 per pay or \$15.00 per pay depending on which plan is chosen. He said some changes were made to the plans to keep the cost down. The City pays the same for both plans and the employees pay the difference. He said joining the State Health Plan would have been more expensive.

Tax Restructuring

- ♦ In his opinion, the restructuring of the Property Tax System is the most important act by the Legislature in 20 years, past or future. He thinks the time to talk about it is now, not in 2003.
- ♦ Indiana Association of Cities and Towns proposed eliminating schools, transportation, and welfare from Property Tax funding and increasing the State Sales Tax, Income Tax, and

Corporate Tax to fund. They recommended \$100 million in permanent funding from fuel tax and dock-side gaming.

- Our local Legislators are in favor of tax restructuring. Need to write letters to those at the Legislature who are in control of what bills are heard.

RECESSED/RECONVENED

The special meeting recessed at 1:40 P.M. and the regular meeting reconvened at 2:00 P.M.

President called the regular meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He then called upon Rev. Jeff Smith, Associate Pastor of First United Methodist Church, to offer a prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the minutes of the August 27-28, 2001 Budget Hearings as distributed, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.
- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2001 Regular Meeting as distributed, seconded by Councilmember Vernon.

After Councilmember Basham questioned if County Assessor Bob McKee committed to reimburse the 5% of the Trustees salaries for future years, the motion and second to approve the September 11, 2001 minutes were withdrawn until the tape from that meeting can be checked.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2001 Joint Executive Meeting with the Commissioners as distributed, seconded by Councilmember Bell; motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Auditor Robert Plantenga

Auditor Plantenga reported the 2001 uncommitted County General Funds through September 30, 2001 are \$493,179.86.

Auditor Plantenga reported A G Edwards was the low bidder at 4.9258% for the Jail Expansion bonds that were sold on September 27, 2001. He noted the approximate interest rate of 5.25% for the Parking Garage bonds that were sold last November.

Councilmember Fruitt asked the amount paid to the Boys' and Girls' Schools this year. Auditor Plantenga said over \$500,000 has been paid for all Institutional Care so far this year. The Council appropriated \$150,000 toward the outstanding debt from prior years to the Boys' and Girls' Schools at the March 13, 2001 meeting. At the September 2001 meeting, the Council approved an Additional Appropriation of \$125,000 for the Boys' School, \$14,681 for the Girls' School, and \$75,000 for Secure Detention to pay bills incurred through June 2001. Auditor Plantenga noted a current balance of approximately \$250,000 in the Institutional Care line item.

President Byers inquired why Reassessment Fund 05 is showing no interest. Auditor Plantenga explained that Reassessment 2006 Fund 05 has been zeroed out after being combined with Reassessment Fund 04 at the direction of the State Tax Board due to delays in the current reassessment. Funding for the 2006 Reassessment will come from future Property Tax collections.

INTEREST REPORT: Treasurer Oneta Tolle

Treasurer Tolle reported interest rates are still dropping. The average interest rate for August 2001 was 3.55%. She announced they are arranging for taxpayers to pay their property taxes through the Internet. The taxpayer will pay the fee to a contracted company.

Responding to a question regarding how he set the anticipated interest revenue for 2002, Auditor Plantenga responded he based it on history of past earnings.

FAIRGROUNDS

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$5,000.00
5,000.00 Utilities

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve an additional \$5,000.00 for Utilities, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

EXTENSION

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$2,000.00

2,000.00 Utilities

A balance of \$630.00 was noted in this line item.

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approve an additional \$2,000.00 for Utilities, seconded by Councilmember Bell; motion carried.

SHERIFF: County Misdemeanant Fund 79: Sheriff Dave Murtaugh

Sheriff Murtaugh explained this funding, received from the State to house misdemeanants in the County Jail, needs to be appropriated into the various line items.

APPROPRIATION: \$98,901.00

23,901.00 Uniforms & Clothing
30,000.00 Medical
25,000.00 Other Operating Supplies
20,000.00 Building Maintenance

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the appropriation of \$98,901.00 to County Misdemeanant Fund 79, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

SHERIFF: County General Fund 01

TRANSFERS: \$60,000.00

From:	01-05-121410	Deputies	20,000.00
To:	01-05-221300-1015	Medical	20,000.00
From:	01-05-121480	Correction Officers	20,000.00
To:	01-05-221300-1017	Vehicles	20,000.00
From:	01-05-121570	Nurse	15,000.00
	01-05-112169	Communication Officers	5,000.00
To:	01-05-331000	Fugitives	20,000.00

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the Transfers, seconded by Councilmember Bell; motion carried.

VILLA: Director Terri Hively

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$13,000.00

13,000.00 Water & Sewer

Mrs. Hively submitted the following to support her request:

(quote)

ISSUES WITH EXCESSIVE SEWAGE BILL

1. The bill has increased from \$288.00 per month to \$2300.00 per month is a two year period.
 - A. This increased (sic)was caused because Tippecanoe Villa was switched from a flat rate to a metered rate.
 1. Problems with this-

The schools are on a flat rate and this is much more economical. We have been on a flat rate many years, since the first plant was originally built, it was legal then-why should it be changed now.

American Suburban Utilities is using the readings off of our water meter. I have found differences between what they are reading per month and what the Indiana-American Water Company is reporting. In March of this year there was a 66,200 gal. difference. If we had been on a metered rate at this time it would have cost \$270.00 more that we actually owed. I talked to Larry Tipton from Indiana-American Water, he informed me that American Suburban did not have the authority to read their meter. Mr. Tipton informed me that this information is usually purchased from the water company. Incorrect readings is one of the reasons it is done this way. Mr. Tipton is contacting Mr. Lodes from American Suburban and asking them to cease immediately, until they have a formal agreement.
 2. It has been discovered that we do need to be more efficient in our water use. I have instructed our Maintenance Director, Don Hedgecough to install water saving shower heads and nozzles on our faucets. We are also looking into the cost of connecting our laundry and chillers back into the well for use.

3. I have had many discussions with Brent Shike, from the Office of Utility Consumer Council, which sets our rate. Brent is looking into the entire situation, he is also discussing with their attorneys answers to my questions. I expect to hear more from Brent Shortly (sic).
4. I would like to say that I personally feel that the sewage rate for this area is very unfair. The Tippecanoe County Jail is metered double what we are and their sewage bill is 1/3 less.

(unquote)

Mrs. Hively believes she has to pay the bill until the issue is resolved, but Councilmember Kemper disagreed. Mrs. Hively said she has been told that, when the development in the area is complete, the rate could be reevaluated. Councilmember Vernon commented that this is the cost of doing business for the sewer provider.

Auditor Plantenga pointed out that some funds are available for transfer from the Resident Assistant II line item.

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve an additional \$8,000.00 for Water & Sewer, seconded by Councilmember Bell.

After Councilmember Kemper said he can't support the motion because he thinks we are sending the signal that the County is ok with such a large rate increase, Councilmember Fruitt withdrew his motion and Councilmember Bell withdrew her second.

- Councilmember Basham moved to transfer \$5,000.00 from Resident Assistant II to Water & Sewage, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt.

Councilmember Vernon thinks this increase for the Villa is the same as a homeowner on the system receiving a rate increase.

- The motion carried.
- Councilmember Kemper moved to table the Additional Appropriation request of \$13,000.00, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

JUVENILE ALTERNATIVES: JEDIS/JAG Fund 155: Administrative Assistant Janice Bernard

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$32,837.00

23,379.00	JEDIS Assistant
1,788.00	Social Security
1,111.00	Retirement
5,741.00	Health Insurance
818.00	Workers Comp

Ms Bernard requested approval of the appropriation for the JEDIS Assistant position. The Salary Ordinance for this position was approved at a prior meeting.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation for the JEDIS Assistant position, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT: Bailiff Brooke Kerner

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$13,000.00: County General Fund 01

10,000.00	Pauper Attorney
3,000.00	Evaluations

Ms Kerner said she has \$2,200.00 in bills for Pauper Attorney but a balance of only \$400.00. She has \$2,300.00 in bills for Evaluations.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve \$10,000.00 for Pauper Attorney and \$3,000.00 for Evaluations from County General Fund 01, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$10,000.00: Jury Pay Fund 161

10,000.00	Jury Expense
-----------	--------------

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve \$10,000.00 for Jury Expense from Jury Pay Fund 161, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

DRAINAGE BOARD

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$30,000.00
30,000.00 Engineering

Auditor Plantenga pointed out that \$2,500.00 in the Executive Secretary line item is available for transfer because there was a vacancy.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve an additional \$27,500.00 for Engineering, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

EDIT SECTION CORNER: Fund 15

TRANSFER: \$2,500.00

From:	15-07-121410	Field Tech IV	2,500.00
To:	15-07-311000	Travel & Training	2,000.00
	15-07-323300	Printing & Advertising	500.00

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the Transfer, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

AREA PLAN

TRANSFER: \$2,400.00

From:	01-28-113300	Transportation Planner	2,400.00
To:	01-28-212000	Computer Supplies	2,400.00

The funds for Computer Supplies will be used to purchase two (2) copies of 8.1 Arcview licenses so they can communicate with the State and Federal Governments.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the Transfer, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TRANSFER: \$700.00

From:	01-46-221000	Printed Forms & Materials	700.00
To:	01-46-321110	Attorney Fees	700.00

This Transfer of funds will be used to offset an increase in attorney fees due to the new food ordinance and environmental issues that have required several court appearances.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the Transfer, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES: Executive Director Diane Hawkins

TRANSFER: \$700.00

From:	01-50-111500	Systems Administrator	1,000.00
To:	01-50-321000	Dues & Subscriptions	1,000.00
From:	01-50-111000	Executive Director	1,770.00
	01-50-111500	Systems Administrator	7,758.00
	01-50-112000	Network Administrator	3,190.00
	01-50-112200	Programmer	6,297.00
	01-50-112300	PC/Telephone Tech	25,052.00
	01-50-112400	Computer Operator	5,444.00
	01-50-117100	Secretary/Receptionist	3,330.00
	01-50-182100	Social Security	5,100.00
	01-50-182200	Retirement	4,957.00
	01-50-326200	Hardware Maintenance	10,000.00
To:	01-50-323050	Contract Services	72,898.00

Mrs. Hawkins requested the transfer to Contract Services for training the MITS' Staff. The transfer to Dues & Subscriptions is to pay for advertising for vacant positions.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the Transfer of \$1,000.00 to Dues & Subscriptions, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the Transfer of \$72,898.00 to Contract Services, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

CARY HOME: Director Rebecca Humphrey

SALARY ORDINANCE	Position	Rate	Salary
Part-time	Therapist/Case Mgr	16.13/hr	
	Tutor	7.00-9.00/hr	
	Evening Receptionist	7.00-9.00/hr	

Ms Humphrey requested approval to increase the hourly part-time rate from \$15.26 per hour to \$16.13 per hour for the Therapist/Case Manager who works 20 hours per week. She also requested approval of the part-time pay rate of \$7.00-9.00 per hour for the Tutor and Evening Receptionist contingent upon the Commissioners’ approval of those positions. Ms Humphrey explained that Purdue University will pay for the two positions, but requested that the County set the part-time rate. These two employees will each work 10 hours per week.

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve the Salary Ordinance pending approval of the Tutor and Evening Receptionist positions by the Commissioners, seconded by Councilmember Kessler; motion carried.

AUDITOR: Auditor Bob Plantenga

SALARY ORDINANCE	Position	Rate	Salary
Part-time	GASB 34	10-15.00/hr	

Auditor Plantenga explained that the Auditor is required by the State to begin GASB 34 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) in 2002. He is requesting approval of a part-time salary range so he can pay according to the qualifications of the person hired for the remainder of 2001 and for 2002. He anticipates this person will work 15 hours per week preparing a report of anything in the County with long term value such as road, bridges, office equipment, etc.

- Councilmember Basham moved to approve the Salary Ordinance, seconded by Councilmember Bell; motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2001-36-CL: Authorizing Credit Card Use in the Parking Garage (Tabled 9/11/2001)

This Resolution was amended after the September 11th meeting to authorize credit card usage only in the Parking Garage.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to take Resolution 2001-36-CL from the table, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

(quote)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2001-36-CL
AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF CREDIT CARDS
AT TIPPECANOE COUNTY PARKING GARAGE**

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-1-8-11 allows the Tippecanoe County Council, as the fiscal body of Tippecanoe County, to designate the financial instruments by which payments may be made to the County; and

WHEREAS, the Tippecanoe County Council desires to authorize the use of credit cards for the payment of all sums due Tippecanoe County for hourly use of the Tippecanoe County Parking Garage;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tippecanoe County Council that:

The Tippecanoe County Council hereby authorizes the payment of all sums now or hereafter due the County of Tippecanoe, for hourly use of the Tippecanoe County Parking Garage, to be paid by bank card or credit card.

ADOPTED this 4th day of October, 2001.

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

David S. Byers, President

Connie Basham, Vice President

Jeffrey Kessler

Margaret K. Bell

Jeffrey A. Kemper

Kathy Vernon

Ronald A. Fruitt

ATTEST:

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

(unquote)

- Councilmember Vernon's motion to approve Resolution 2001-36-CL died for lack of a second.

APPOINTMENT: Juvenile Justice Commission

President Byers appointed Councilmember Connie Basham to serve on the nine (9) member Juvenile Justice Commission as the County Council's representative. This Commission will begin the process for a Juvenile Justice Center in Tippecanoe County.

OTHER BUSINESS

MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) will meet Tuesday, October 9, 2001.

The next Council Working Session will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2001 at 2:00 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room.

The Council will hold a Special Meeting with Mayor Sonya Margerum on Tuesday, November 13, 2001 at 1:00 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room. The Regular Council Meeting will follow at 2:00 P.M.

A Phase II Stormwater Meeting will be held at 3:30 P.M.. Tuesday, October 16, 2001 in the Tippecanoe Room. Surveyor Steve Murray would like attendance by as many Councilmembers as possible.

Attorney Luhman announced that the Indiana Supreme Court extended the deadline until October 31, 2001 to waive the right to appeal Judge Melichar's mandate regarding Courthouse security. He said the Commissioners previously decided to not waive their right to appeal, but he said the Council can make its own decision on this matter.

A Joint Executive Meeting with the Commissioners regarding security will be held at 3:00 P.M., Monday, October 15, 2001 in the Tippecanoe Room.

A Community Prayer Breakfast will be held from 7:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M., Wednesday, October 10, 2001 at the University Inn.

Community System-wide Response Team Forums will be held from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. on Tuesday, October 4th, Wednesday, October 10th, and Monday, October 15th in the Home Ec Building at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds. They will discuss issues related to youth.

Parking Garage Update:

- ♦ The contract date for completion is Saturday, October 20, 2001.
- ♦ Minor adjustments were needed following the electrical inspection.
- ♦ The installation of the cabling will take approximately one week.
- ♦ The striping is completed.
- ♦ The elevators have been approved.
- ♦ Automated system instruction is taking place.
- ♦ A walk-through for employees will be held later this month.
- ♦ Parkers in the garage will be charged 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Credit Card Discussion:

- ♦ Pass the credit card fee on to the customer. Signage in the garage should inform customers they will pay the fee.
- ♦ Resolution authorizing credit card usage in the garage should state that the customer will pay the fee.
- ♦ The Council needs to inform the Attorney what they want included in the resolution.

- ♦ Form a committee of a Councilmember, a Commissioner, the Attorney, and the Auditor to work out a resolution for next month’s meeting. President Byers will represent the Council.

Councilmember Bell volunteered to fill the vacancy on the County Job Classification Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

David S. Byers, President

Ronald L. Fruitt

Connie Basham, Vice President

Jeffrey A. Kemper

Margaret K. Bell

Jeffrey Kessler

Attest:_____
Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

Kathy Vernon